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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re: Application of: Martin DAFERNER, et al.  
Serial No.: To Be Assigned  
Filed: Herewith as national phase of International Patent Application  
PCT/EP2003/010510, filed September 20, 2003  
For: METHOD FOR DETERMINATION OF A LEAD TIME  
TC/A.U.: To Be Assigned  
Examiner: To Be Assigned  
Docket No. 710.1019  
Customer No: 23280

Mail Stop PCT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

April 28, 2005

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Applicant respectfully requests that the following Amendments be made in the above-identified matter prior to examination thereof:

**Amendments to the Specification** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 6 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 12 of this paper.